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 PIPE
 AUG 14 2003
 PATENT & TRADEMARK

\$RCE/2871

S&H Form: PTO/SB/30 (2/01)

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

TRANSMITTAL

(INCLUDING FILING FEE AND/OR PETITION FOR
 EXTENSION OF TIME FEE)

*Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective May 29, 2000
 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application
 filed on or after June 8, 1995.
 See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)*

To: Commissioner for Patents Box RCE PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450		Attorney Docket No.: 1460,1020	
First Named Inventor	Tetsuya NISHII et al.		
Application No.	09/835,374	Group Art Unit	2871
Filing Date	April 17, 2001	Examiner	George Y. Wang
CPA Filing Date		Confirmation No	5784
Title of Invention	OPTICAL SWITCH EXPANDING METHOD, OPTICAL SWITCH, AND OPTICAL CROSSCONNECTING APPARATUS		

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1.

Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 (Box a or b must be completed)

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on July 23, 2003
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on ____

iii. ☐ Other

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

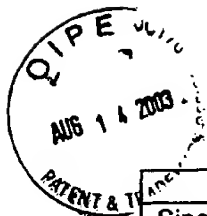
iv. ☐ Other



2.

Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required).

b. ☐ Other



		BASIC FEE		\$	750.00
Since an Official Action set an original due date of <u>August 23, 2003</u> , petition is hereby made for an extension of time to cover the date this RCE is filed, for which the requisite fee is enclosed (1 month (\$110); 2 months (\$410); 3 months (\$930); 4 months (\$1,450); 5 months (\$1,970)):					
Suspension Fee (\$130.00)					
Total of above Calculations =				\$	750.00
Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (Note 37 C.F.R. 1.9, 1.27, 1.28).					
TOTAL FEES DUE =				\$	750.00
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Small entity status: a. <input type="checkbox"/> Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status. b. <input type="checkbox"/> A Verified Statement Claiming Small Entity Status was previously filed and such status is still proper and desired. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is no longer claimed.					
5. <input type="checkbox"/> Other:					
6. METHOD OF PAYMENT					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>750.00</u> is enclosed.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Charge "TOTAL FEES DUE" to Deposit Account No. 19-3935. (A duplicate copy of this form is enclosed.)					
7. GENERAL AUTHORIZATION					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 (filing fees) or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 (processing fees) during the prosecution of this application and of any related application(s) claiming benefit hereof pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §120 to maintain pendency hereof and of any such related application to: Deposit Account No. 19-3935.					
8. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS					
STAAS & HALSEY LLP  21171 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE					
9. SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED					
NAME		Paul I. Kravetz		REGISTRATION NO.	35,230
SIGNATURE				DATE	August 14, 2003